

LUKE PEARSON

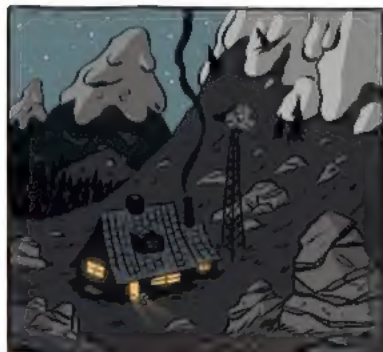
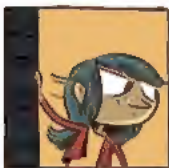
HILDA AND THE MIDNIGHT GIANT



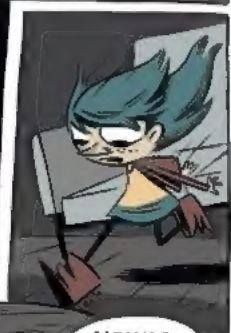


THANKS TO PHILIPPA, ALEX, SAM, JUDITH, ISAAC, EVERYONE AT NOBROW AND MY FAMILY.
SPECIAL THANKS TO PHILIPPA RICE AND ISAAC LENKIEWICZ FOR THEIR HELP IN COLOURING THE BOOK.

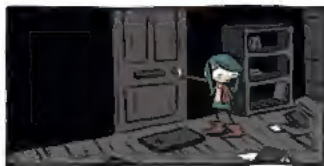














I'M REAL. SORRY TO DISAPPOINT. LISTEN, I'M AN ELF, ONE OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE WHO RUBBISHED YOUR LIVING ROOM LAST NIGHT. EXCEPT I'M NOT. THAT IS, I DIDN'T DO ANY OF THE RUBBISHING. I JUST CAME TO WATCH. I'M MORE OF A WRITER THAN A FIGHTER Y'WEE.



NOW I KNOW YOU CAN'T SEE US AND THE REASON YOU CAN'T SEE US IS THAT WE TAKE THE BUSINESS OF WHO SEES US AND WHO DOESN'T SEE US VERY SERIOUSLY. WHICH MEANS OF COURSE THERE'S A LOT OF PAPERWORK INVOLVED.



WELL I STUCK AROUND A BIT LAST NIGHT AND I HEARD THE OLDER GIRL'S ULTIMATUM ABOUT FRIEND-MAKING.



BEING OF THE OPINION THAT IT'D DO EVERYONE THE WORLD OF GOOD IF THIS CAME TO PASS, AND THAT THE CHANCES OF THIS COMING TO PASS WOULD BE GREATLY INCREASED IF YOU COULD SEE US, I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF SPENDING THE NIGHT SIGNING THE RELEVANT PAPERS FOR YOU.



I'VE BEEN RUMMAGING



I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE FORGERY QUITE IMPRESSIVE.

INDEED



NOW IF YOU'LL JUST SIGN THIS LAST PAGE YOURSELF, WE'LL BE ALL SET.



I SEE. WELL, ALRIGHT. BUT ONLY BECAUSE I WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE. I DON'T TRUST YOU OR LIKE YOU AT ALL.



THERE.



NOW, WHERE ARE YOU?



LOOK IN THE MIRROR



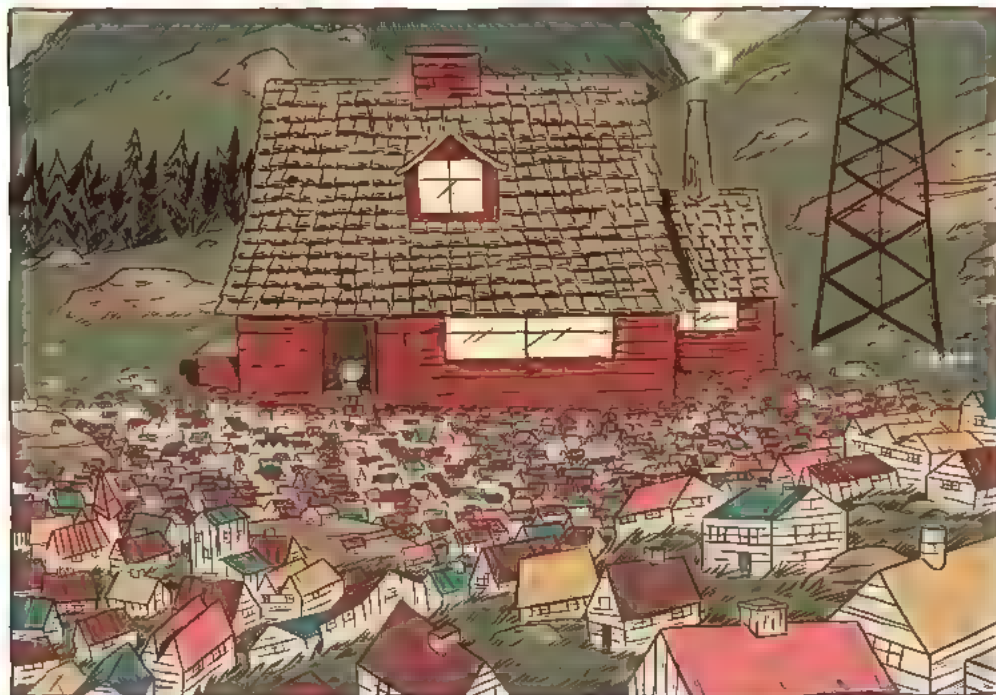
I DON'T.

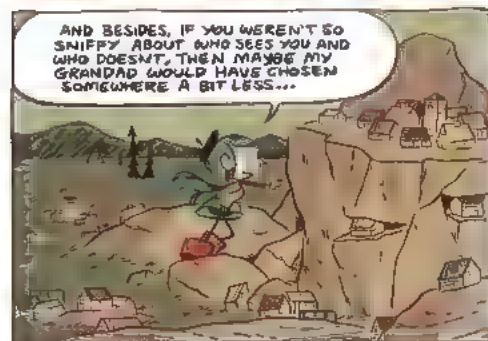
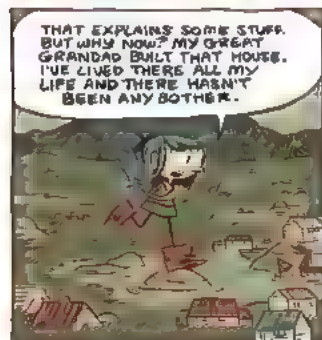
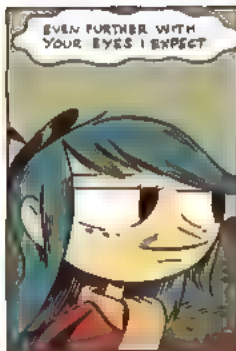
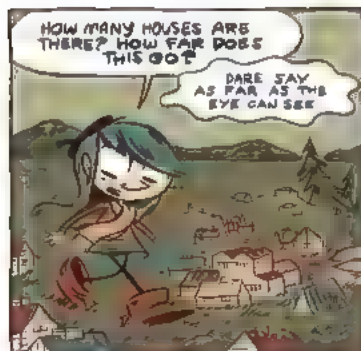
LOOK HARDER

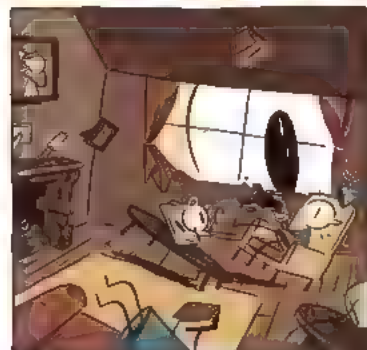
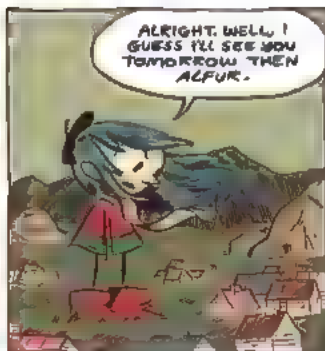


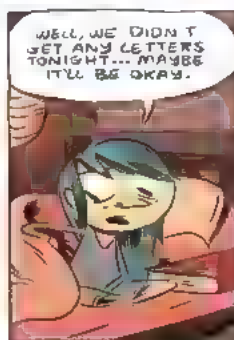
COO-EE!

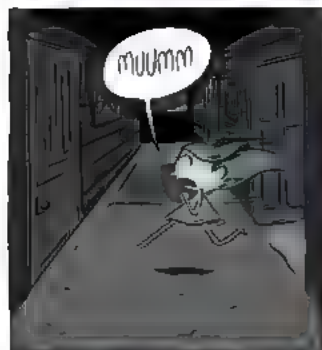
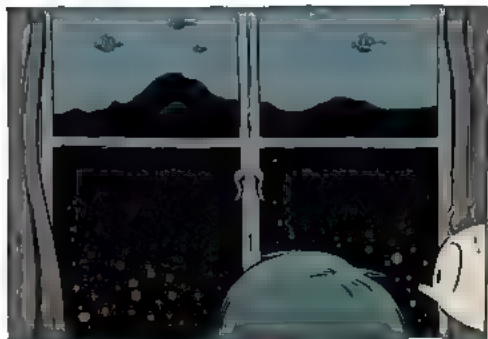
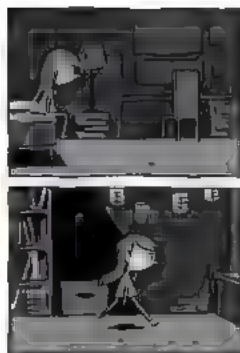


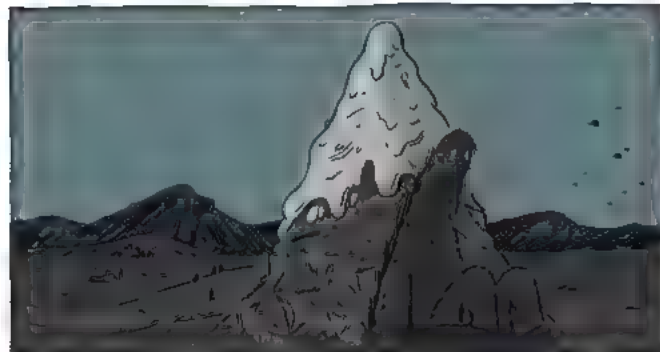
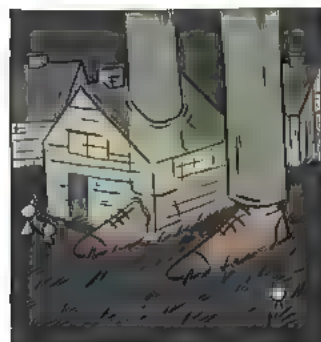


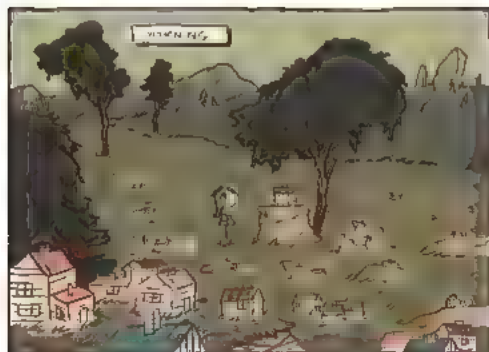


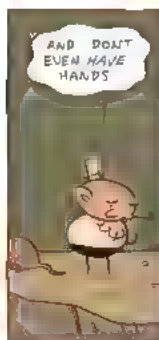
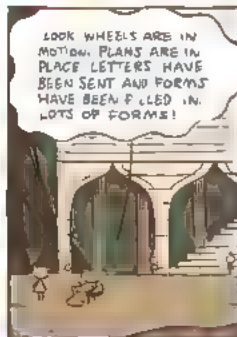


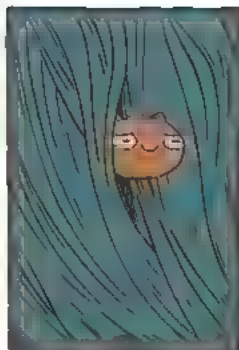


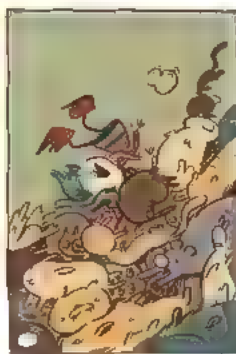
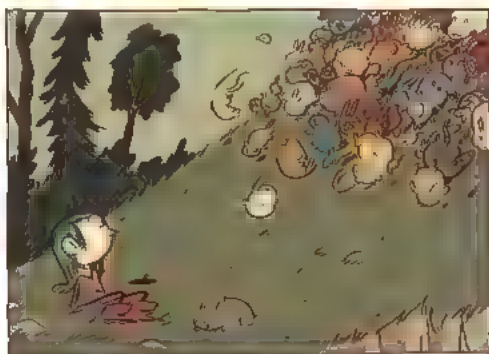
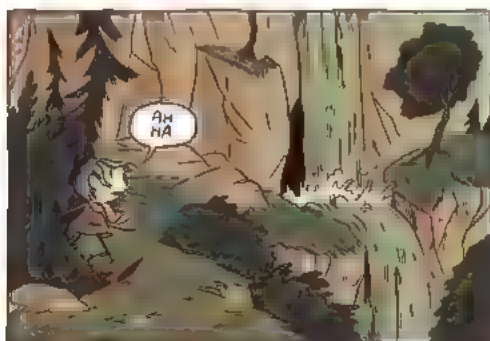
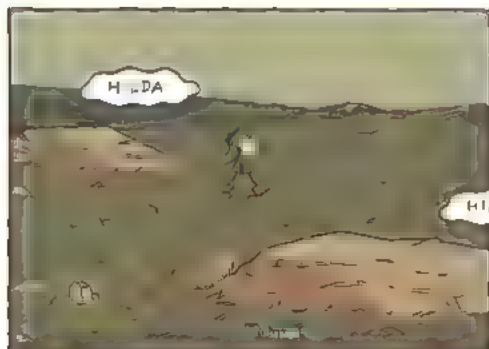


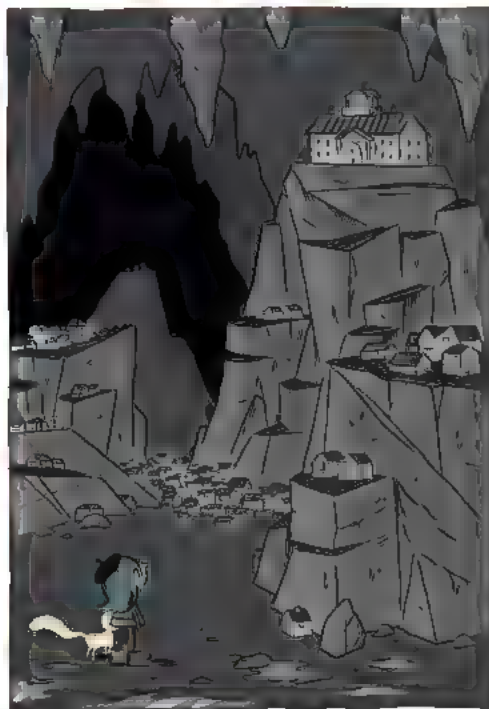
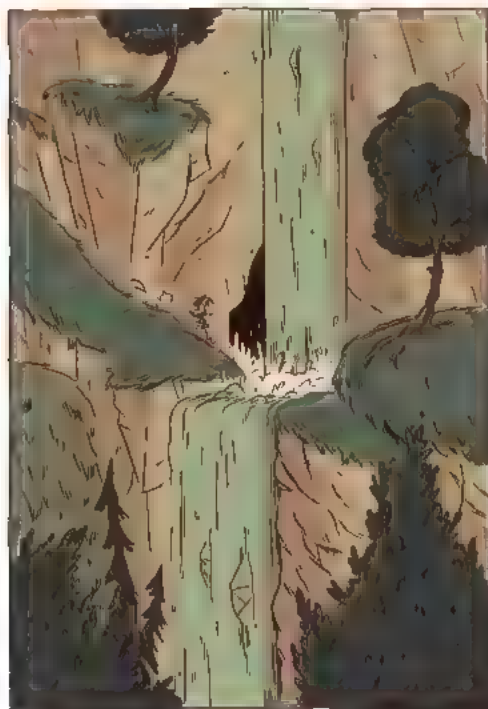
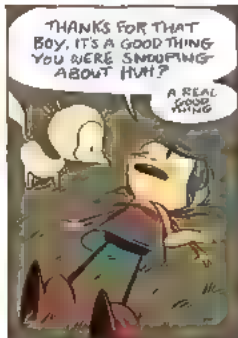
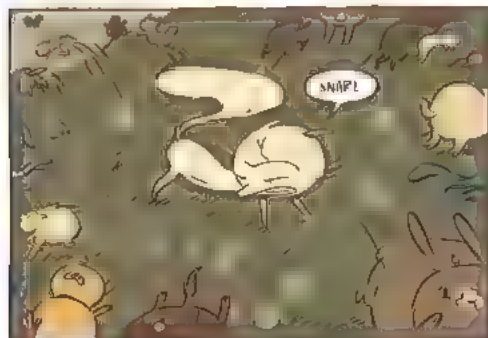


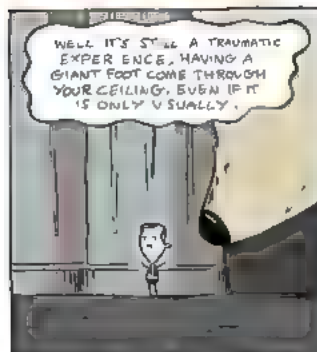
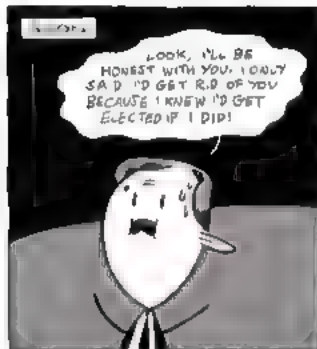


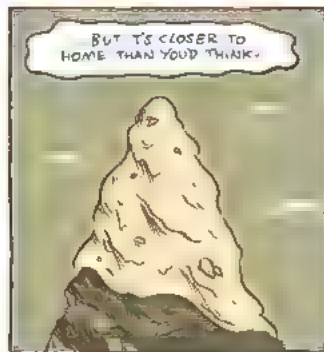
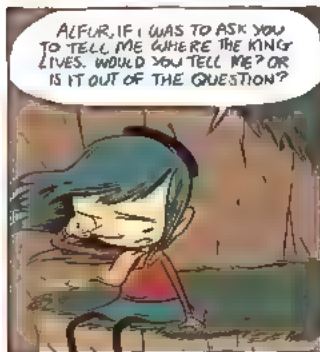
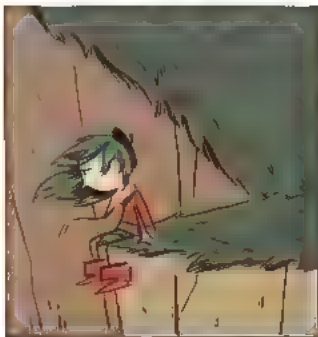
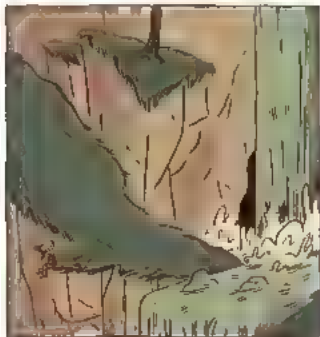
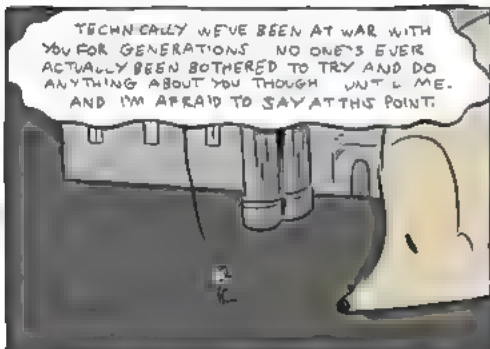


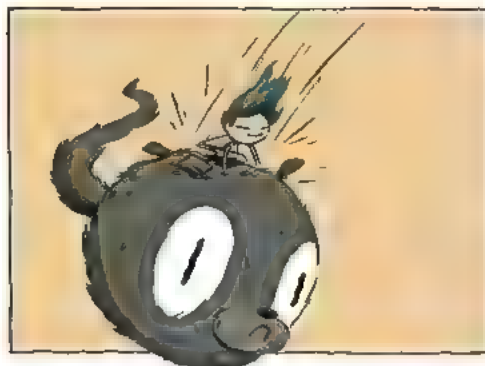
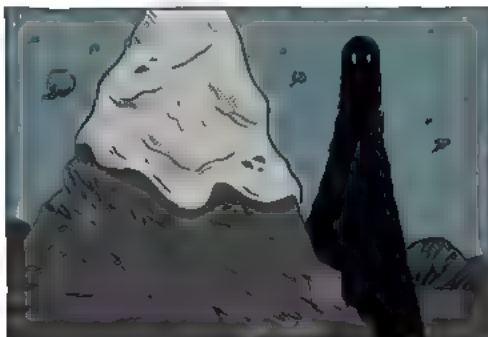


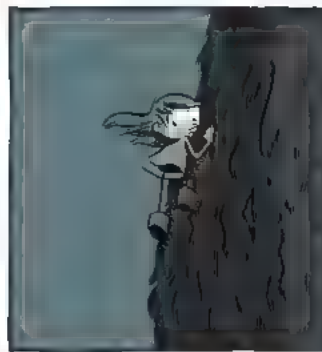
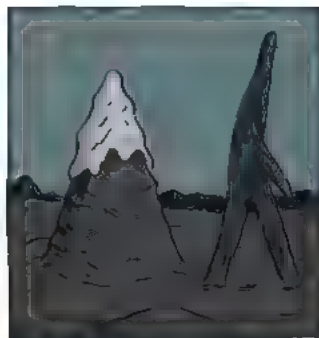
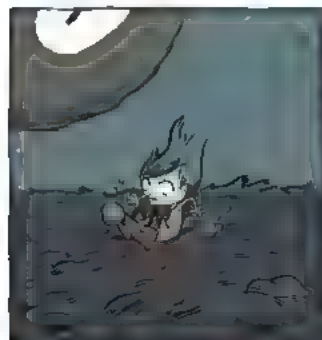


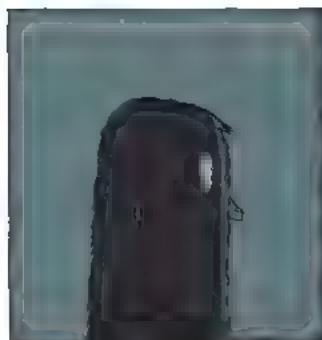
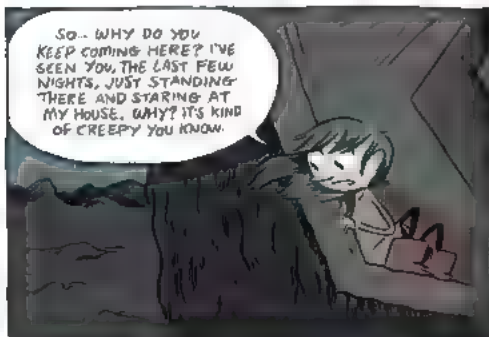
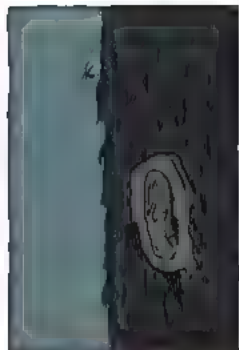












AND YOU'RE
MEANT TO MEET
THEM BY MY
HOUSE?

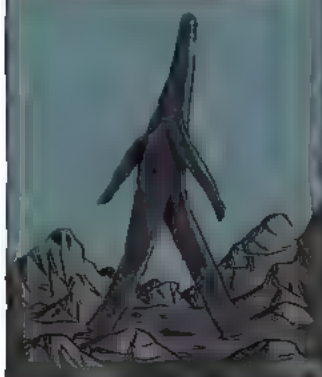
THE LAST
TIME WAS HERE
THERE WAS NO HOUSE

ARE YOU
SURE? HOW OLD
ARE YOU?



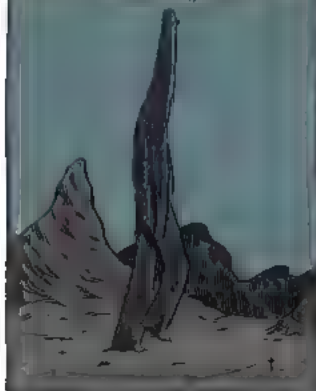
SO, ARE YOU
SURE YOU HAVE
THE RIGHT
PLACE?

I'M SURE, I REMEMBER.
THE WAY THE HORIZON LOOKED,
THE POSITION OF THE RIVER, THE
WAY THE AIR SMELLS. SOME
THINGS SEEM DIFFERENT. THE
HILLS HAVE SHIFTED YOUR HOUSE
BUT THIS IS THE PLACE.
I REMEMBER



SO WHY HAVEN'T
THEY COME?

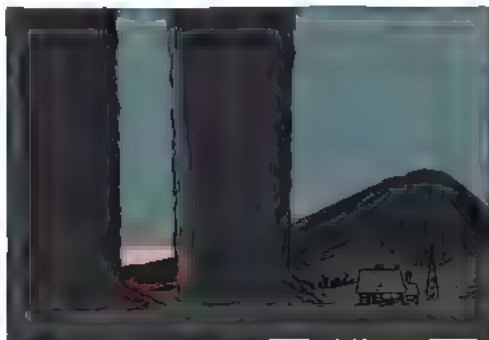
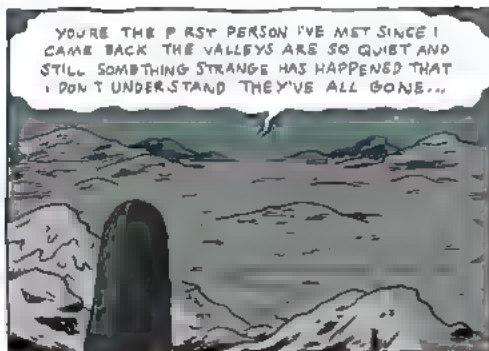
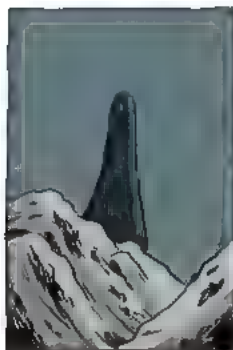
THE DETAILS WERE SET
A LONG TIME AGO. I'VE
THOUGHT ABOUT IT EVERY
DAY FOR A VERY VERY LONG
TIME. WE WOULD MEET
HERE AT MIDNIGHT. BUT
...
PERHAPS I GOT THE DATE
WRONG.



SEEMS TO ME LIKE
YOU'VE GOT A GOOD
MEMORY REMEMBERING
THE HORIZON AND ALL THAT.
YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE THE KIND
OF PERSON TO FORGET AN
IMPORTANT DATE

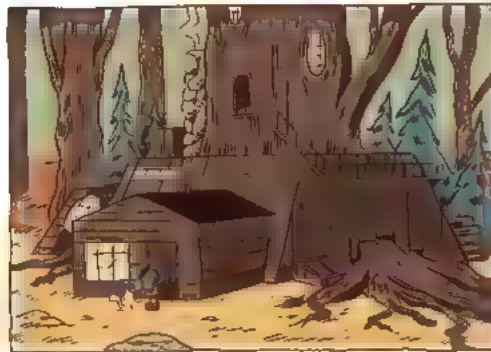
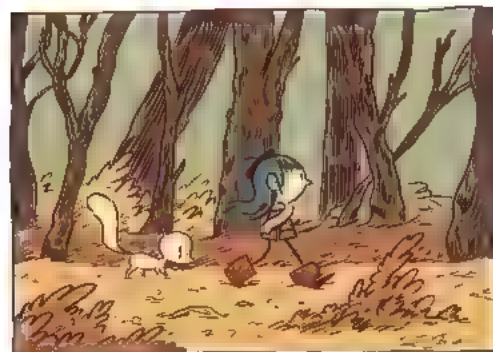
IF YOU ASK
ME, YOU'VE BEEN
STOOD UP.

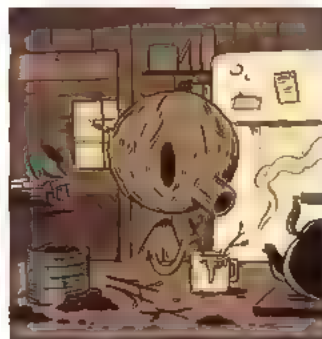
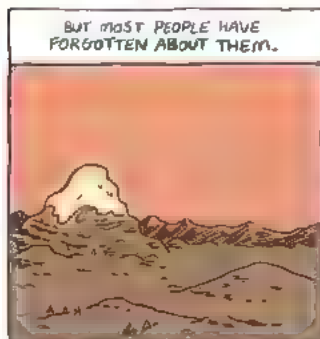
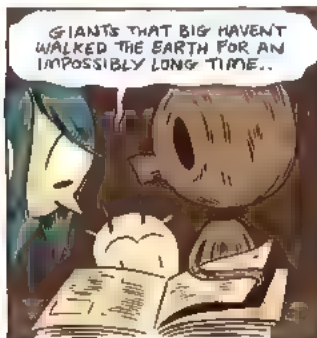






THANK YOU
FOR THE ADVICE
GOODBYE,
LITTLE GIRL





IT JUST WASN'T THEIR
WORLD ANY MORE, SO THEY
HAD TO LEAVE BUT NO ONE
KNOWS WHERE THEY WENT



SOME SAY THAT THEY
ALL JUST JUMPED..



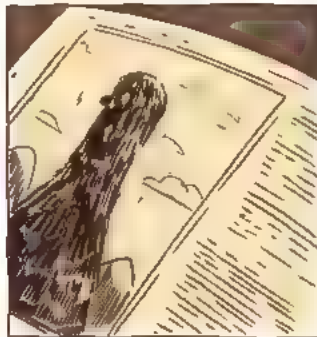
.. AS HIGH AS THEY
COULD...



.. AND DRIFTED OFF
INTO SPACE.



HEY, THAT
LOOKS JUST LIKE
MY ONE!



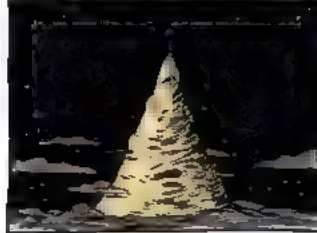
ACCORDING TO THIS IT WAS
CRUCIAL THAT ONE GIANT MUST
AT ALL TIMES BE SAT ATOP
THE TALLEST MOUNTAIN, A LONG
FORGOTTEN PEAK IN THE NORTH.



THERE HE OR SHE WOULD GAZE
TIRELESSLY INTO THE BLACK,
GUARDING THE EARTH FROM
ANYTHING THAT MIGHT
THREATEN FROM ABOVE..



ANY YOUNG GIANT COULD
BE SUMMONED AS GUARDIAN,
A DUTY THAT COULD LAST
FOR MILLENNIA



LEGEND SAYS THE LAST
GUARDIAN TO SERVE WAS
THIS FELLOW... 'JÖRGEN'.

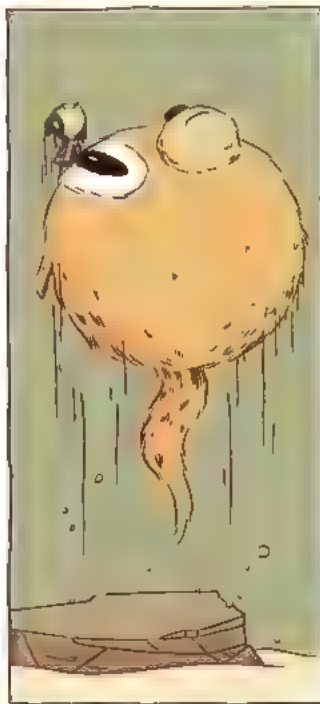
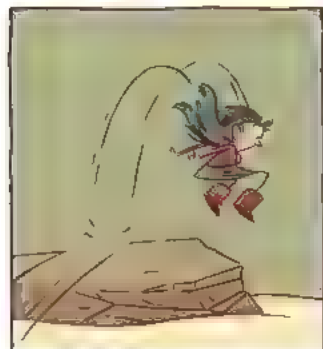
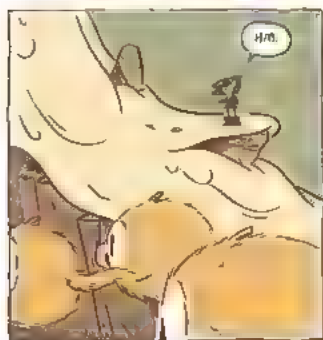
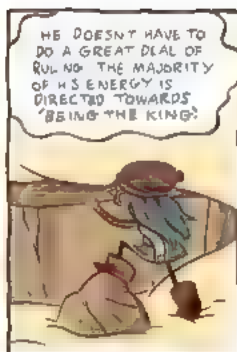


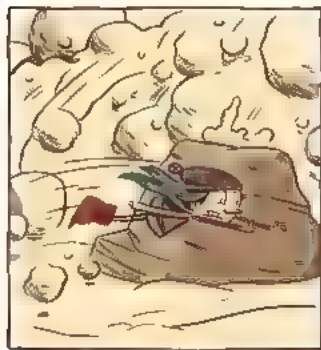
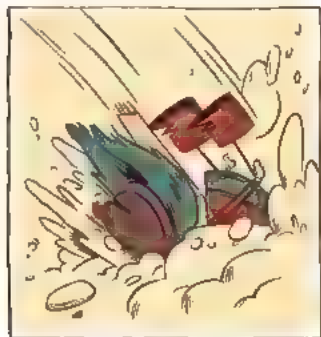
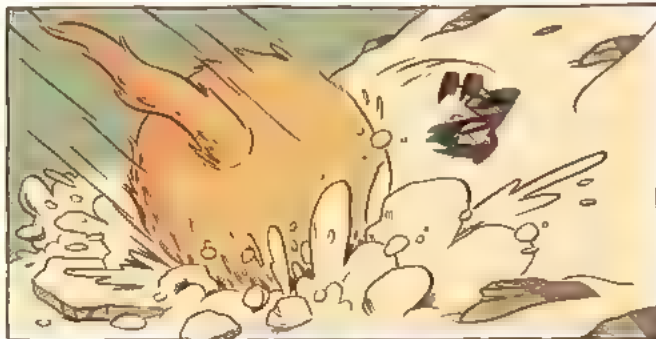
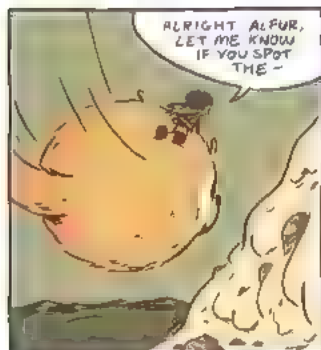
THAT'S HIM! THAT MUST
BE HIM! HE'S BEEN GUARD-
ING THE ENTIRE PLANET ALL ON
HIS OWN FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS
AND NO ONE TOLD HIM
THAT EVERY-
ONE ELSE
HAS GONE!

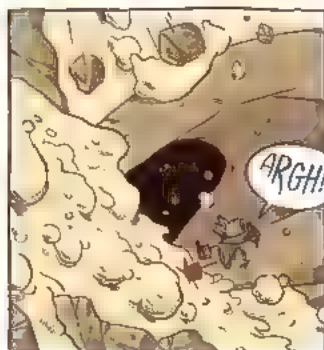
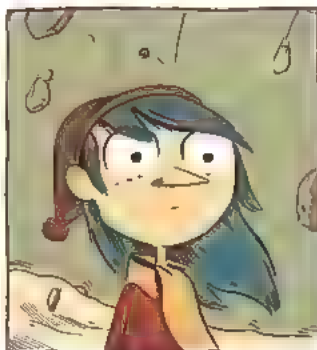
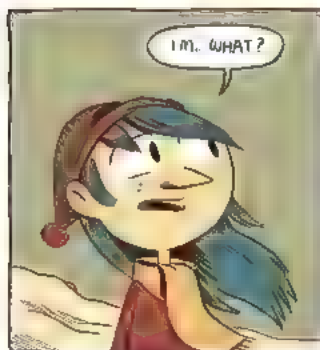
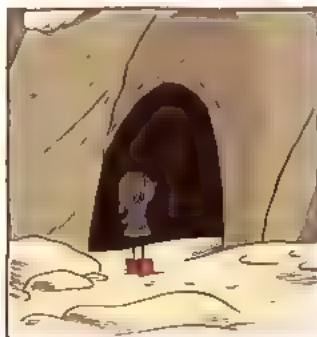


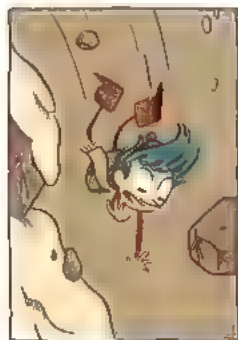
NOW HE'S DONE HIS JOB
AND COME HOME HIS FRIEND
WAS MEANT TO MEET HIM
BUT SHE'S GONE TOO. POOR
GUY.. HE'S ALL ON HIS OWN.

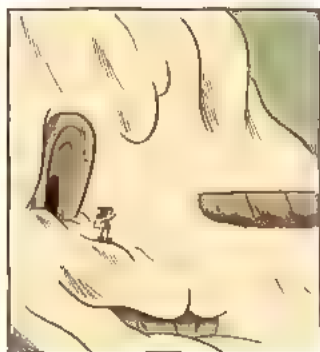


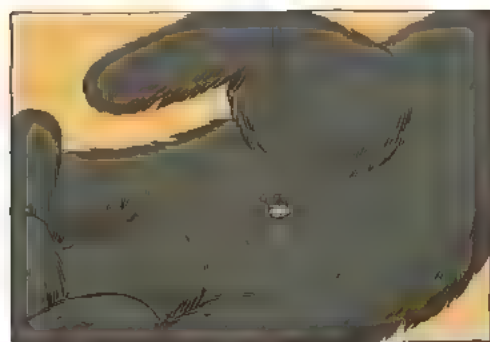
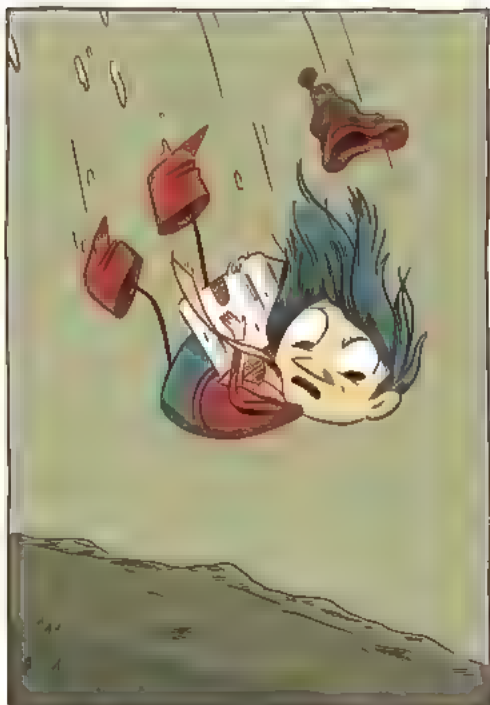


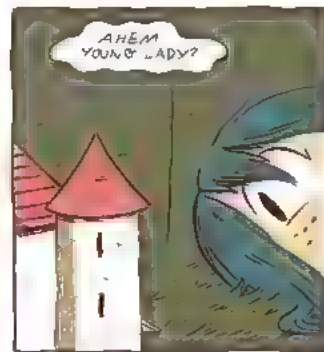
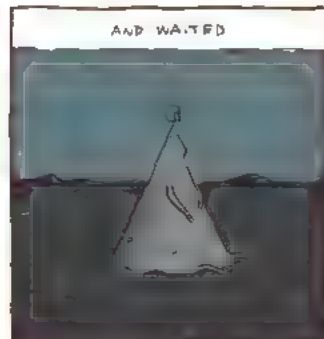


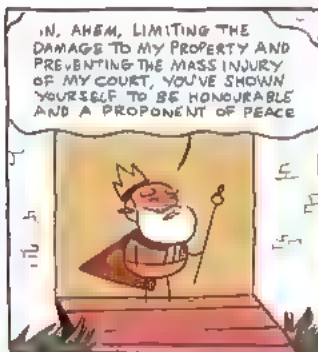


















THE GIANTS OF OLD

I Jafnar - Father of hares and dragons. Wilder and less forgiving than his fellow giants, he was a great antagonist of the little people, who feared him greatly. **II Aldin** - Looked on by the other giants as a leader of sorts. He was the first to take the long and leave the valleys for good. **III Hie** - The eldest of the last generation of giants and by far the largest. His ancient beard was home to a thriving, alien ecosystem. Many of the stranger creatures that wander the Earth first appeared after they nibbled out of it. **IV Valfrey** - Gentlest and gentlest of giants. The first mountain was sculpted in his appearance. **V Habbie** - Descended from a line of great warrior giants, he was actually one of the most gentle. He was greatly sympathetic to the little people and the giant must fondly remembered in their tales. He did not force with the others and it is unclear what became of him. **VI Jorgen** - The last goliath.

Suicided in his day as a young man. Jorgen has served as the Earth's watchman for perhaps thousands of years. **VII Hylke** - A mysterious and shadowy giant associated with ill health and bad omens. Despite this he was widely mis- **VIII Kahl** - The Winesinger. Usually only seen during blizzards in a vapor and rainbow shadow, it is unclear whether he is made of snow or simply called in it. **IX Heimdu** - Had one eye and a chilly head. **X Sigmond** - A cousin of Jorgen's and a rival to Aldin's leadership. He was known for his long, luxurious fur which he washed twice a day in the sea. **XI Jafnar** - Lived deep within the Mountains of Madness. He rarely saw the other giants, preferring the company of his six extra heads. **XII Drift** - Kahl's older (yet smaller) brother. **XIII Bjing** - The youngest of the group. He was fearful of the other giants and not well liked. When the others left he went into hiding.

Truth and since are descended from him. **XIV The Kneel** - A mean-spirited, living hill. **XV Furor Giant** - The chosen living relatives to the giants of old. **XVI The Ice Man** - Overlaid to the giants. It is made of pure ice and it sometimes even walking slowly across the giants. **XVII Billa** - The smallest of the true giants. She didn't find the others such far seriously enough. **XVIII Redskin the Thunderstorm** - Cursed with an unfortunate appearance, Redskin stuck into the little people and made the other giants uncomfortable. **XIX Enave** - Flaccid by how he could affect the landscape, he would spend his nights sitting rivers, moving rocks and exploring rivers, just to see how the people would react to the morning. **XX Gird** - The strongest giant and the most fun to be around. She was decided to see how long she could balance an enormous boulder on her back. The legends say that it never fell off.

WUZZLE SCANS

